

18 March 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT : Little Wagner Act

1. H.R. 554, known as the Little Wagner Act, which guarantees certain privileges to labor organizations in Government, was amended on March 11, to exempt CIA and the FBI from its terms. There was ready agreement by the Committee to the request for exemption by Mr. Ramspeck and little debate is expected in the Congress. It may be, however, that labor unions or left wing elements in them will try to cause some trouble or embarrassment.

2. I suggest, therefore, that those who might get calls on this subject be briefed for appropriate handling of inquiries. The answer is very simple. The Bill does not discriminate against labor unions; it merely puts unions in the same position as the Congress, the Civil Service Commission, the Comptroller General and all other outside agencies to the extent that none of them can require information about our inner workings, statistics or programs.

3. Section 7 of P.L. 110, providing among other security measures that the Director of the Bureau of the Budget should make no reports to the Congress in connection with the Agency, might be cited to show that the exemption in the Little Wagner Act is routine and in no sense discriminatory.

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
General Counsel

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